



LabCert Program Reciprocity Agreements

Reciprocity is handled differently in that the primary responsibility for enforcement and PT requirements falls upon the host accrediting agency. Reciprocity agreements are subject to change with 30 days' notice. Section NR 149.08 (3), Wisconsin Administrative Code, requires that any reciprocal agreements be with States or agencies that have "substantially equivalent" standards for laboratory accreditation.

Reciprocal accreditation will not be provided for a parameter that the "host" agency does not accredit or a parameter for which accreditation requirements are not equivalent. For example, the Wisconsin DNR has not entered into reciprocity with any state/organization for GRO and DRO testing (Petroleum Hydrocarbons, UST). If a laboratory wishes to do work in for these parameters, it must become directly certified or registered by the WI LabCert Program.

No Reciprocity with NELAC/NELAP

The Department is not a National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) Accrediting Authority and does not recognize NELAP accreditation issued by other state or federal agencies in lieu of certification under Ch. NR 149, Wis. Adm. Code.

Reciprocity Agreements

As a follow-up to assessment of our reciprocity agreements in 2013, the Lab Certification and Registration Program has subsequently decided to terminate the agreement with South Carolina effective April 1, 2014. Labs holding accreditation through reciprocity with South Carolina at the time will have their accreditations extended through August 31, 2014. In order to extend accreditation after that date, labs will have to apply for direct accreditation.

We realize that this means that Wisconsin no longer has any active reciprocal agreements. As our administrative rule and governing statute dictate, we remain open to future agreements with states that have "substantially equivalent" standards for laboratory accreditation.